



NEWS RELEASE

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HUDGENS: DAWSON COUNTY COUPLE ARRESTED FOR ARSON

Atlanta – Insurance and Safety Fire Commissioner Ralph Hudgens announced today that two arrests have been made in connection with an arson fire at a home in Dawson County.

James Henry Raines, 31, was arrested Thursday and charged with first-degree arson and probation violation for allegedly setting fire to a home he was renting at 357 Diane Circle, Dawsonville, Ga.

Also, arrested was his wife, Gloria Ann Raines, 31. She faces charges of making false statements, concealment of facts and probation violation, Hudgens said. Both are currently being held in the Dawson County Detention Center.

The fire, which occurred on April 26, 2012, caused heavy damage to the structure. The Raines were in the process of being evicted from the home when the fire occurred.

A warrant has also been issued for William P. Thurmond, 45, of Dawson County in connection with the fire. Thurmond will be charged with first-degree arson, making false statements, and concealment of facts.

The State Fire Marshal's Fire Investigation Unit was assisted in the investigation by the Dawson County Sheriff's Office.

First-degree arson is a felony, with a penalty of one to 20 years in prison and/or a fine of up to \$50,000.